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SHOGUN WARRIORS™

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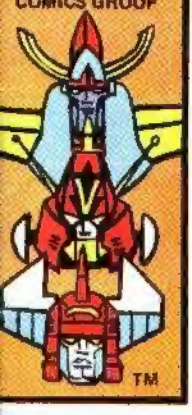
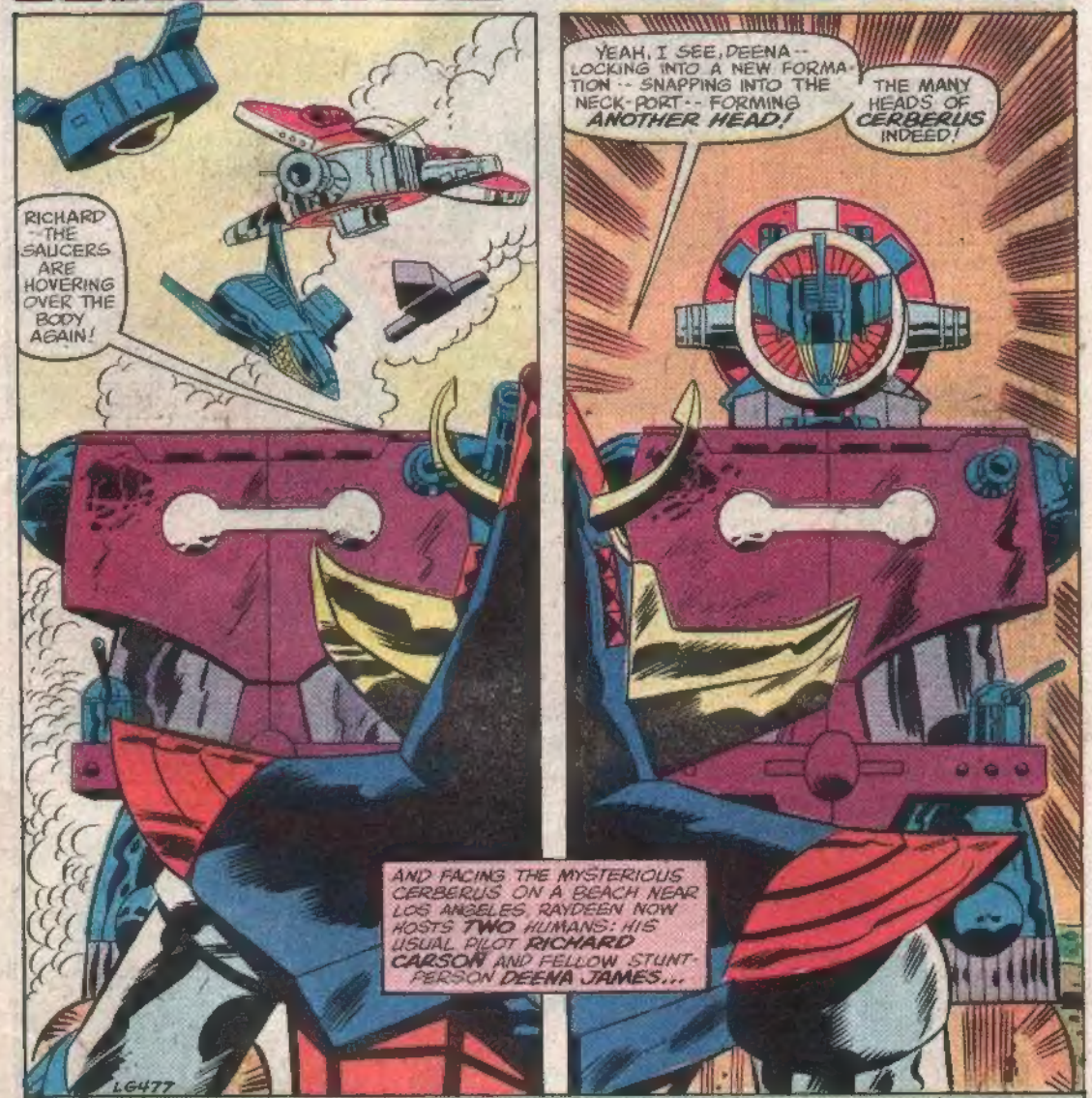


From an ancient sanctuary hidden in the mountains of Japan come Raydeen, Combatra and Dangard Ace— giant robots operated by three courageous humans, Richard Carson, Genji Odashu, and Ilongo Savage — ready to fight the forces of evil wherever they arise!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: SHOGUN WARRIORS™

CERBERUS AND THE SKYFALL


RICHARD — THE SAUCERS ARE HOVERING OVER THE BODY AGAIN!
YEAH, I SEE, DEENA -- LOCKING INTO A NEW FORMATION -- SNAPPING INTO THE NECK-PORT -- FORMING ANOTHER HEAD!
THE MANY HEADS OF CERBERUS INDEED!
AND FACING THE MYSTERIOUS CERBERUS ON A BEACH NEAR LOS ANGELES, RAYDEEN NOW HOSTS TWO HUMANS: HIS USUAL PILOT RICHARD CARSON AND FELLOW STUNT-PERSON DEENA JAMES...
LG477

DOUG MOENCH WRITER / HERB TRIMPE PENCILER / MIKE ESPOSITO INKER / NOVAK :LETTERS / GAFFORD:COLORS / ALLEN MILGROM EDITOR / J. SHOOTER ED-IN-CHIEF

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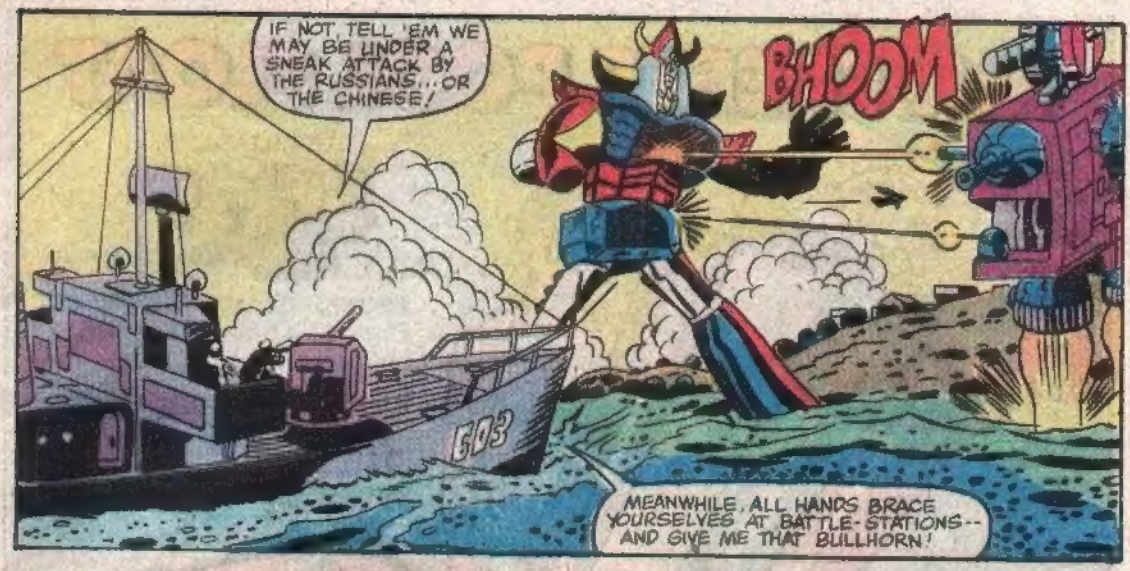
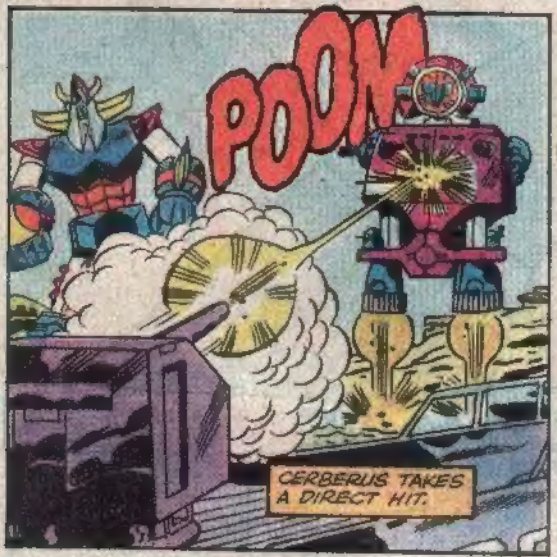
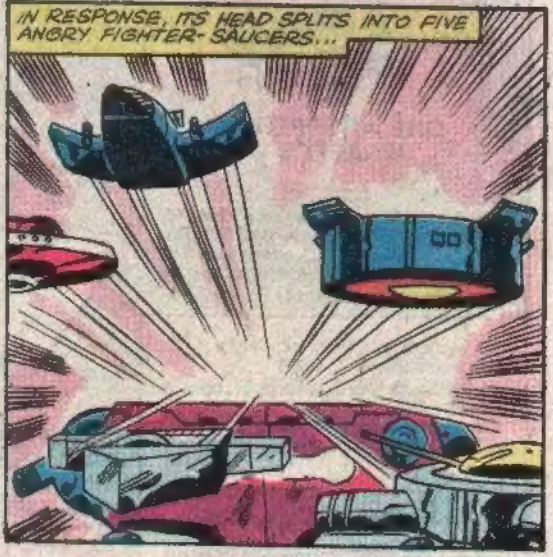
I...I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT, RICHARD--THOSE STORIES YOU TOLD ME ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WHILE YOU WERE GONE--ABOUT RAYDEEN, AND--
YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT, DEE--'CAUSE WE'RE HERE!
YOU'RE TELLING ME--AND I THOUGHT I WAS AUTOMATICALLY FEARLESS BECAUSE I PERFORM FILM STUNTS FOR A LIVING...!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, BABE--JUST HAVE CONFIDENCE IN RAYDEEN, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.
RICHARD--LOOK! CERBERUS' NEW HEAD--THE FACE IS STARTING TO SPIN--SENDING OUT SOME KIND OF VORTEX-FORCE!
LIKE I SAID BABE--DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. A FEW PUSHED BUTTONS, LINKED WITH MY CYBERNETIC WILL-POWER, AND RAYDEEN'S THERMAL SHIELD BLOCKS THE FORCE--
--VAPORIZES IT TO A HALT...
...AND KNOCKS HIS MUG-GYRO OUTTA WHACK! HE'S SPINNING AWAY, OFF-BALANCE--
--WHICH IS A PERFECT TIME TO LAUNCH ONE OF RAYDEEN'S SCREAMER-HAWK MISSILES!
SHREEE
BUT JUST THEN, A COAST GUARD CUTTER ARRIVES--ALL HANDS STUNNED BY THE SIGHT ON THE BEACH...
RADIO H.Q. AND ASK IF THE PENTAGON JUST LOST SOME KIND OF TOP-SECRET NEW WEAPONS!


IF NOT, TELL 'EM WE MAY BE UNDER A SNEAK ATTACK BY THE RUSSIANS...OR THE CHINESE!
BHOOM
MEANWHILE, ALL HANDS BRACE YOURSELVES AT BATTLE-STATIONS--AND GIVE ME THAT BULLHORN!

THIS IS THE COAST GUARD--CAPTAIN HERSCHORN SPEAKING! I ORDER BOTH OF YOU TO HALT YOUR DESTRUCTION AND SURRENDER IMMEDIATELY!





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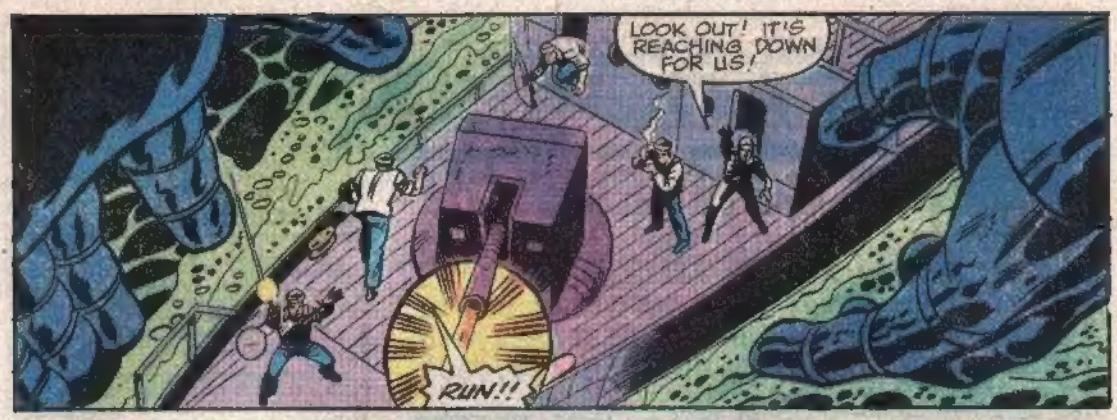
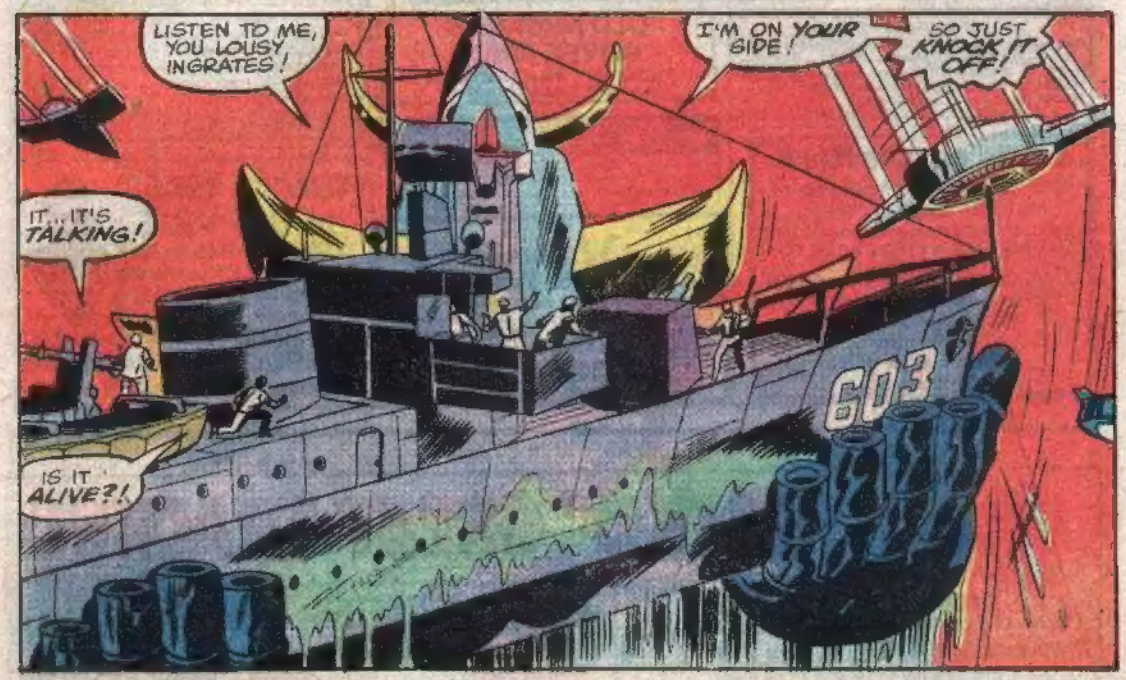
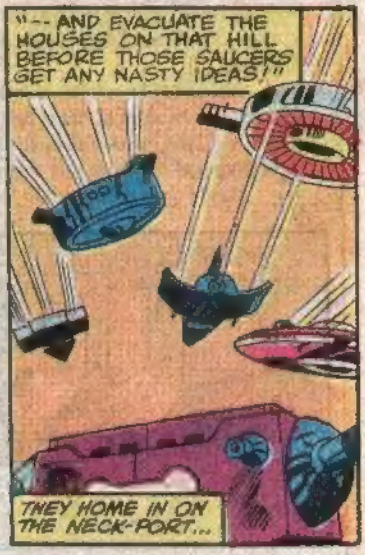
AND, WHILE THE MAIN BODY CONTINUES TO BATTLE RAYDEEN...
THEY'RE COMIN' AT US, CAPTAIN--BUZZIN' DOWN FOR A STRAFING ASSAULT!
OPEN FIRE!
ALL GUN-STATIONS, OPEN FIRE--KNOCK THE STINKIN' THINGS OUT OF THE SKY!
BUT THE DARTING CERBERUS-SAUCERS ARE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO HIT, AND SEEM INDESTRUCTIBLE WHEN A LUCKY SHELL DOES CONNECT...
INSIDE RAYDEEN...
RICHARD, WE'VE GOT TO FORGET ABOUT THE BODY NOW--THE HEAD-PARTS ARE TRASHING THAT COAST GUARD SHIP!
IT'LL SINK IF WE DON'T SAVE IT!
GOTCHA, DEENA...
FIRST, A FEW BLASTS TO SCATTER THE SAUCERS, AND THEN--
HERE COMES THE OTHER ONE, CAPTAIN!
WELL, OPEN FIRE ON IT, MAN--FAST!!
WHAT THE--?! TALK ABOUT SHOOTIN' FIRST AND ASKIN' QUESTIONS LATER!
BLAM
I'M GETTIN' JUST A LITTLE TICKED OFF!







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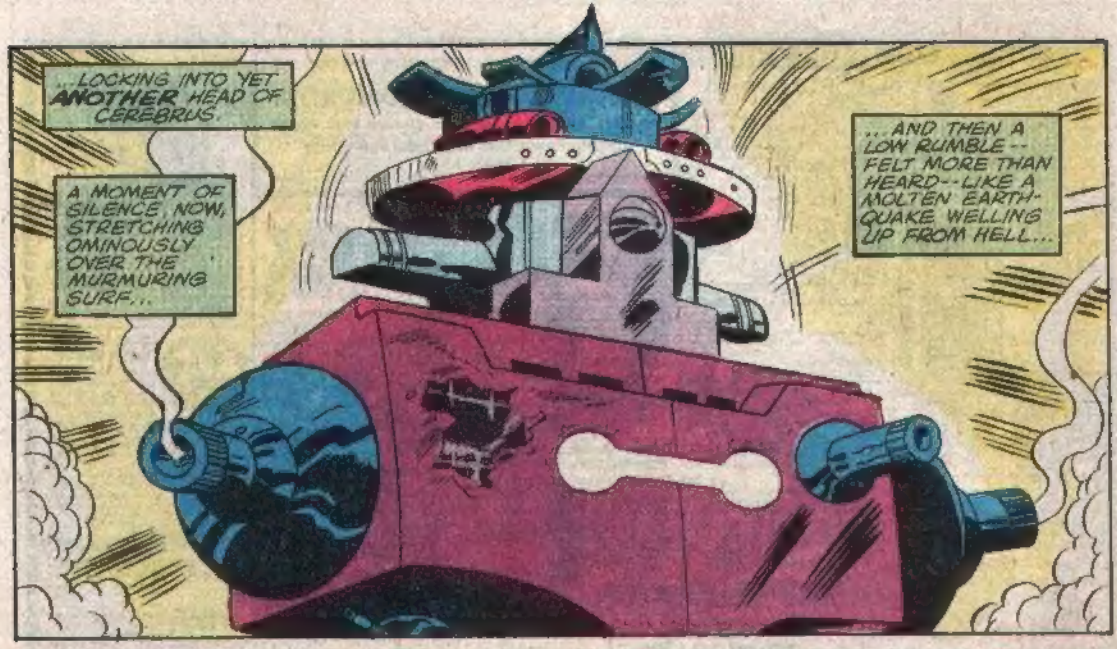
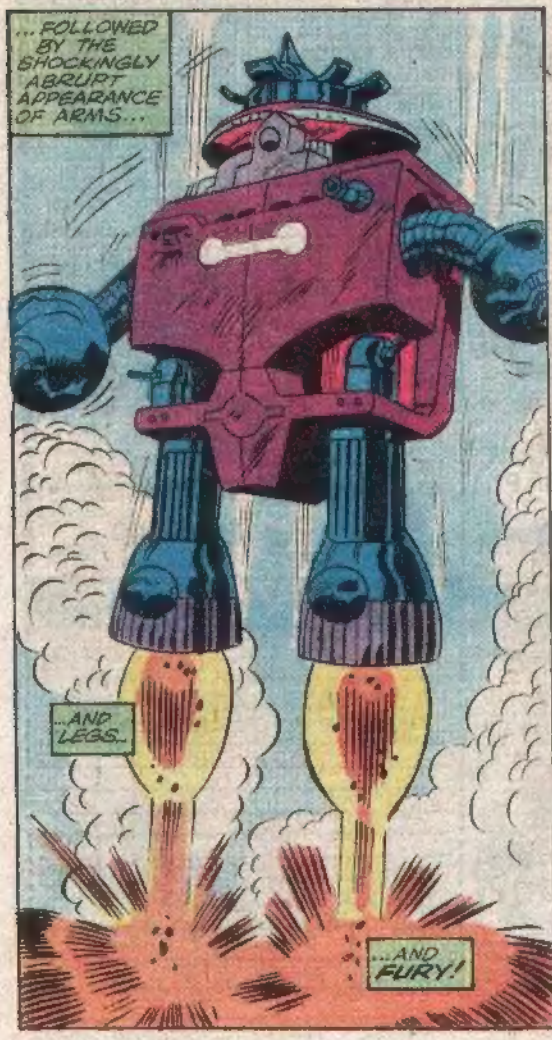
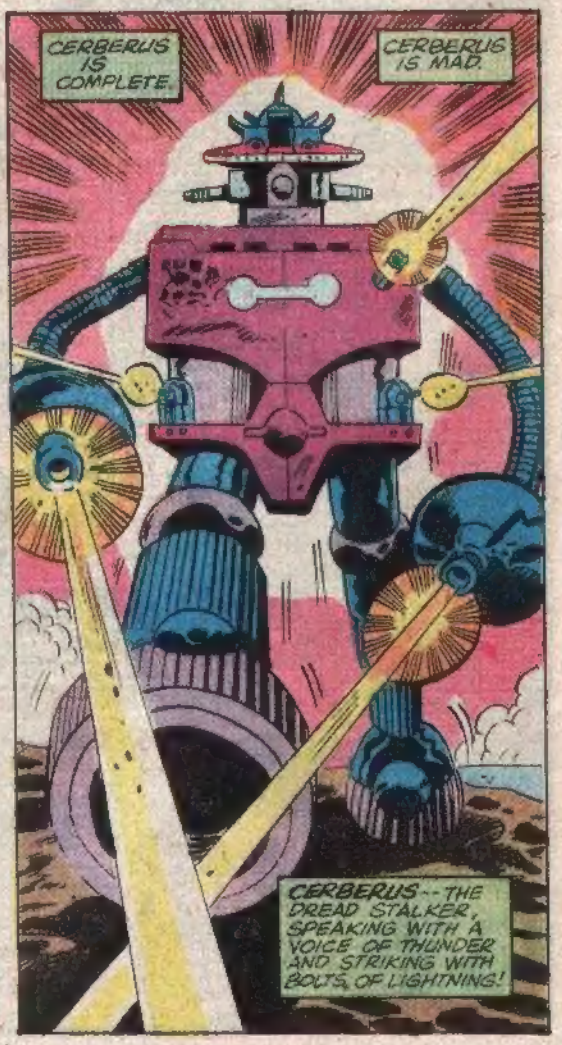
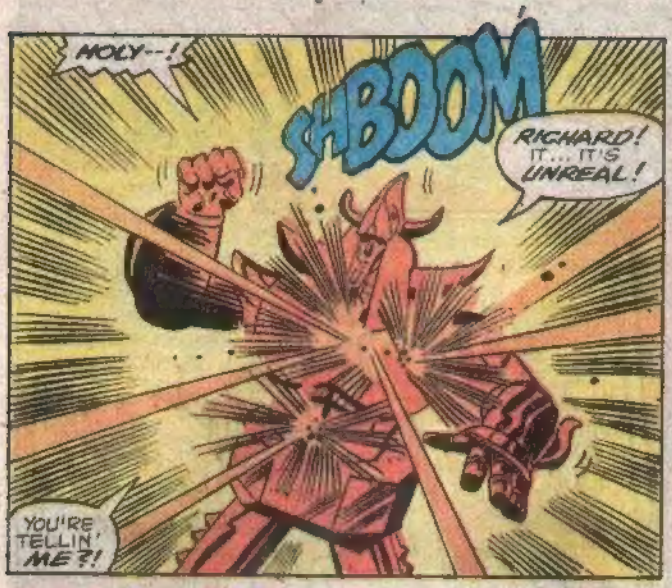
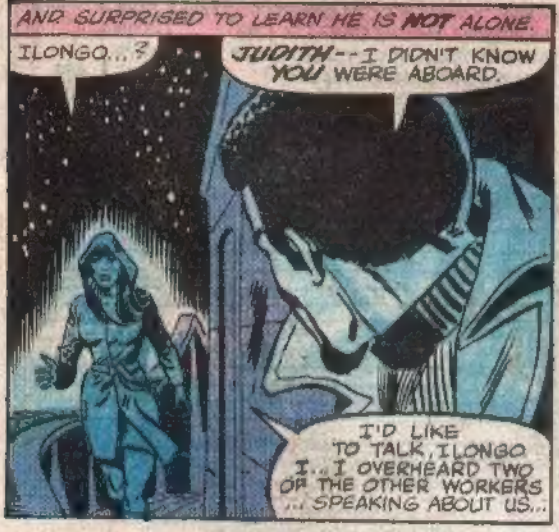

...LOCKING INTO YET ANOTHER HEAD OF CEREBRUS.
A MOMENT OF SILENCE, NOW, STRETCHING OMINOUSLY OVER THE MURMURING SURF...
...AND THEN A LOW RUMBLE -- FELT MORE THAN HEARD -- LIKE A MOLTEN EARTH-QUAKE WELLING UP FROM HELL...


...FOLLOWED BY THE SHOCKINGLY ABRUPT APPEARANCE OF ARMS...
...AND LEGS...
...AND FURY!


CERBERUS IS COMPLETE.
CERBERUS IS MAD.
CERBERUS -- THE DREAD STALKER, SPEAKING WITH A VOICE OF THUNDER AND STRIKING WITH BOLTS OF LIGHTNING!




AND SURPRISED TO LEARN HE IS NOT ALONE.
ILONGO...?
JUDITH--I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE ABOARD.
I'D LIKE TO TALK, ILONGO. I... I OVERHEARD TWO OF THE OTHER WORKERS ... SPEAKING ABOUT US...

NO, I WON'T TELL YOU WHO, BUT THEY... THEY RESENT ME... AS THE NEW MEMBER. THEY SAY I WAS HIRED--PERSONALLY, BY YOU--ONLY BECAUSE I AM A WOMAN, AND BLACK, AND--THEY SAY--BEAUTIFUL.
THEN THIS IS A PROBLEM, JUDITH. I'D THOUGHT OUR TEAM WAS ABOVE SUCH PETTY SQUABBLES...

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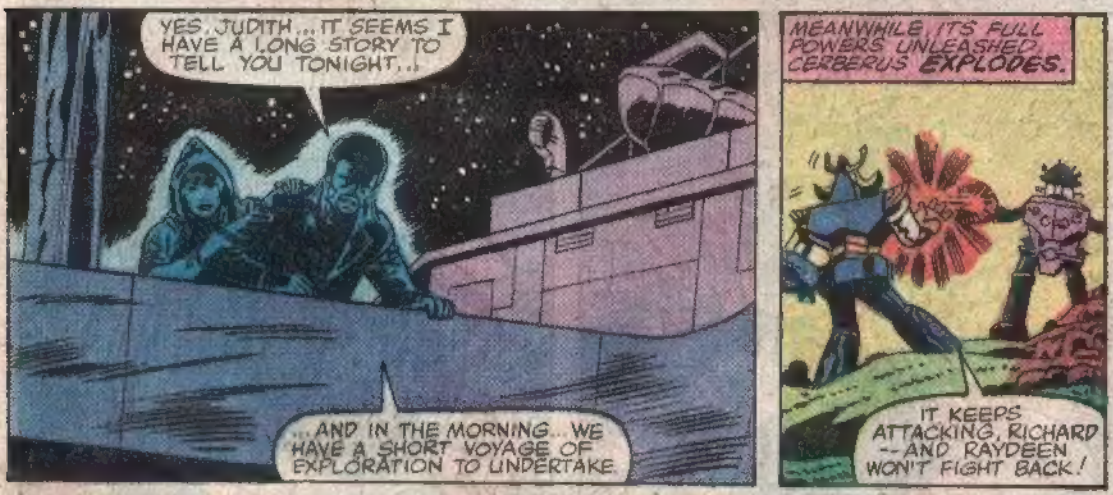
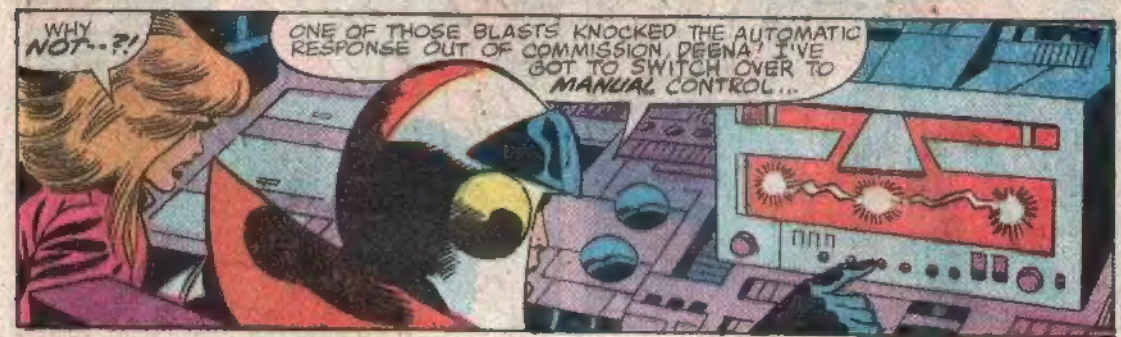
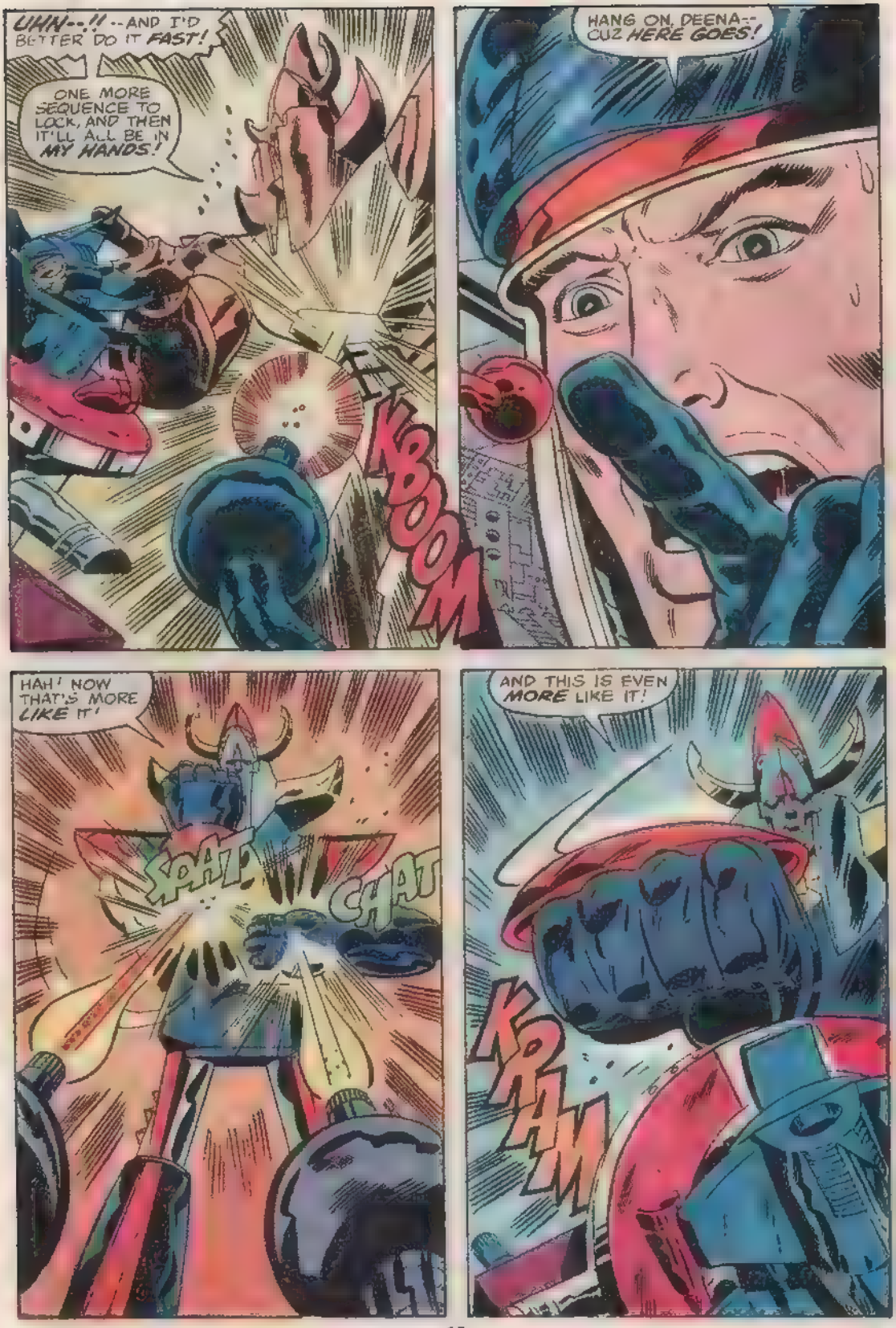
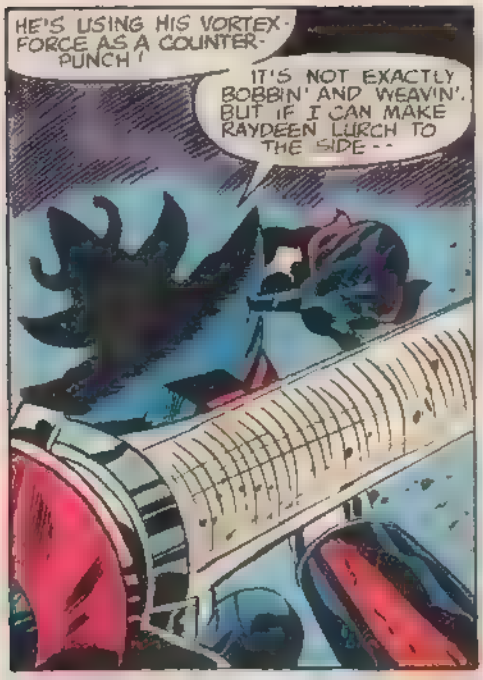
BUT... YOU'RE NOT LETTING IT INTERFERE WITH YOUR WORK -- DOUBTING YOUR OWN ABILITIES, ARE YOU?
WELL... YOU ARE A MAN, ILONGO, AND I AM A WOMAN... AND SUCH THINGS DO HAPPEN...
YES, AND IT HAS HAPPENED-- BUT ONLY AFTER I HIRED THE BEST QUALIFIED RESEARCHER FOR THE JOB. THE OTHERS ARE SIMPLY JEALOUS --
-- CERTAINLY OF YOUR PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS...
... AND PERHAPS OF OUR GREAT, GOOD PERSONAL FORTUNE.
THEIR LIPS TOUCH IN THE MIST.
ONE LAST MATTER, ILONGO. YOU SAID THAT IN YOUR ABSENCE, SOMETHING SPECIAL HAPPENED TO YOU... AND THAT YOU MIGHT TELL ME ABOUT--
JUDITH-- LOOK!
IT'S LIKE A SHOOTING STAR-- A METEOR!
THE SPECTACULAR FIRE-BALL SPLASHES DOWN, A BRIGHT BLAZE SMACKING DARK WATER PERHAPS A MILE FROM SHORE...
AND EVEN BEFORE THE IMPACT'S RIPPLING SWELL BEGINS ROCKING THE VESSEL...
YOUR PENDANT, ILONGO -- IT'S GLOWING!
A STRIKING IMAGE IS PROJECTED FROM THE PENDANT TO THE CABIN WALL.
IT'S DANGARD ACE!
I'M BEING CALLED BY SHOBUN SANCTUARY!

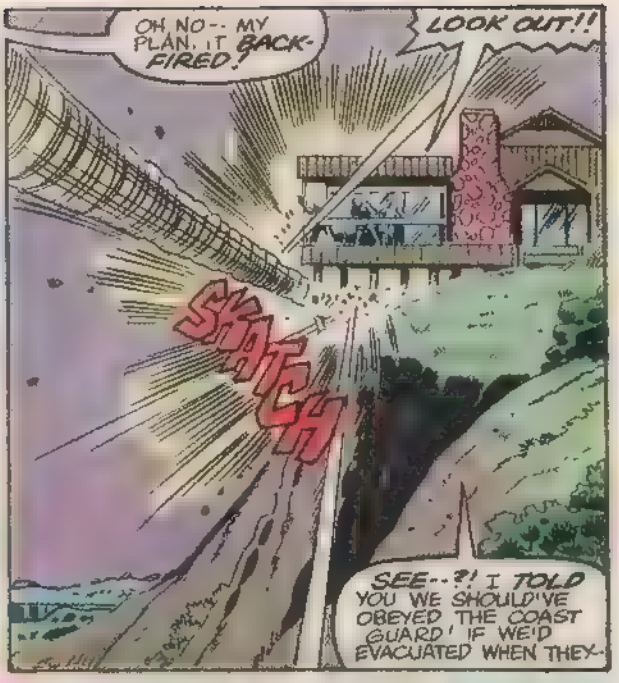
BEWARE OF POSSIBLE DANGER, ILONGO SAVAGE. OUR COMPUTERS HAVE NOT FULLY ANALYZED THE OBJECT WHICH FELL NEAR YOU, BUT WE DO KNOW IT WAS NOT A NORMAL METEOR.
THE FACT THAT OUR SENSORS WERE ALERTED AT ALL IS PROOF OF THAT.
ITS PROXIMITY TO YOUR LOCATION MAKES IT HIGHLY SUSPECT--ESPECIALLY SINCE A MENACE HAS ASSAULTED YOUR FELLOW WARRIOR, RICHARD CARSON.
THEREFORE, YOU MUST REMAIN ON ALERT, PREPARED FOR ANY CONTINGENCY. SHOULD YOU WISH TO INVESTIGATE THE PHENOMENON INDEPENDENTLY, THAT IS YOUR OWN CHOICE TO MAKE.
FAREWELL FOR NOW, ILONGO SAVAGE.
THE PENDANT-PROJECTION BLINKS OUT.
THEN... THIS CONCERNS YOUR RECENT EXPERIENCE...?


YES, JUDITH... IT SEEMS I HAVE A LONG STORY TO TELL YOU TONIGHT...
...AND IN THE MORNING... WE HAVE A SHORT VOYAGE OF EXPLORATION TO UNDERTAKE.
MEANWHILE, ITS FULL POWERS UNLEASHED, CERBERUS EXPLODES.
IT KEEPS ATTACKING, RICHARD --AND RAYDEEN WON'T FIGHT BACK!

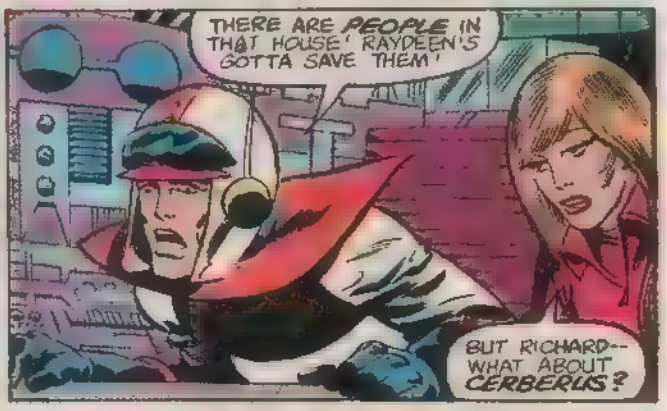

WHY NOT--?!
ONE OF THOSE BLASTS KNOCKED THE AUTOMATIC RESPONSE OUT OF COMMISSION, DEENA! I'VE GOT TO SWITCH OVER TO MANUAL CONTROL...

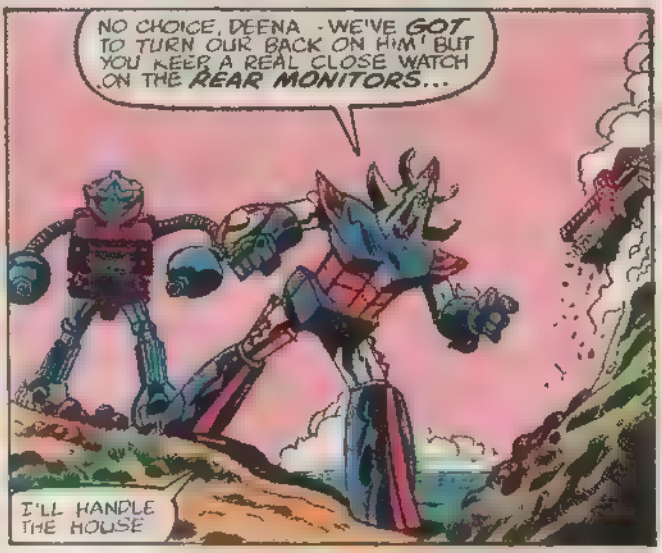

UHN--!! --AND I'D BETTER DO IT FAST!
ONE MORE SEQUENCE TO LOCK, AND THEN IT'LL ALL BE IN MY HANDS!
KBOOM
HANG ON, DEENA-- CUZ HERE GOES!
HAH! NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
KRAAL
CHAT
AND THIS IS EVEN MORE LIKE IT!
KRAAM


HE'S USING HIS VORTEX-FORCE AS A COUNTER-PUNCH!
IT'S NOT EXACTLY BOBBIN' AND WEAVIN', BUT IF I CAN MAKE RAYDEEN LURCH TO THE SIDE--


OH NO-- MY PLAN, IT BACK-FIRED!
LOOK OUT!!
SKATCH
SEE--?! I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD'VE OBEYED THE COAST GUARD! IF WE'D EVACUATED WHEN THEY-

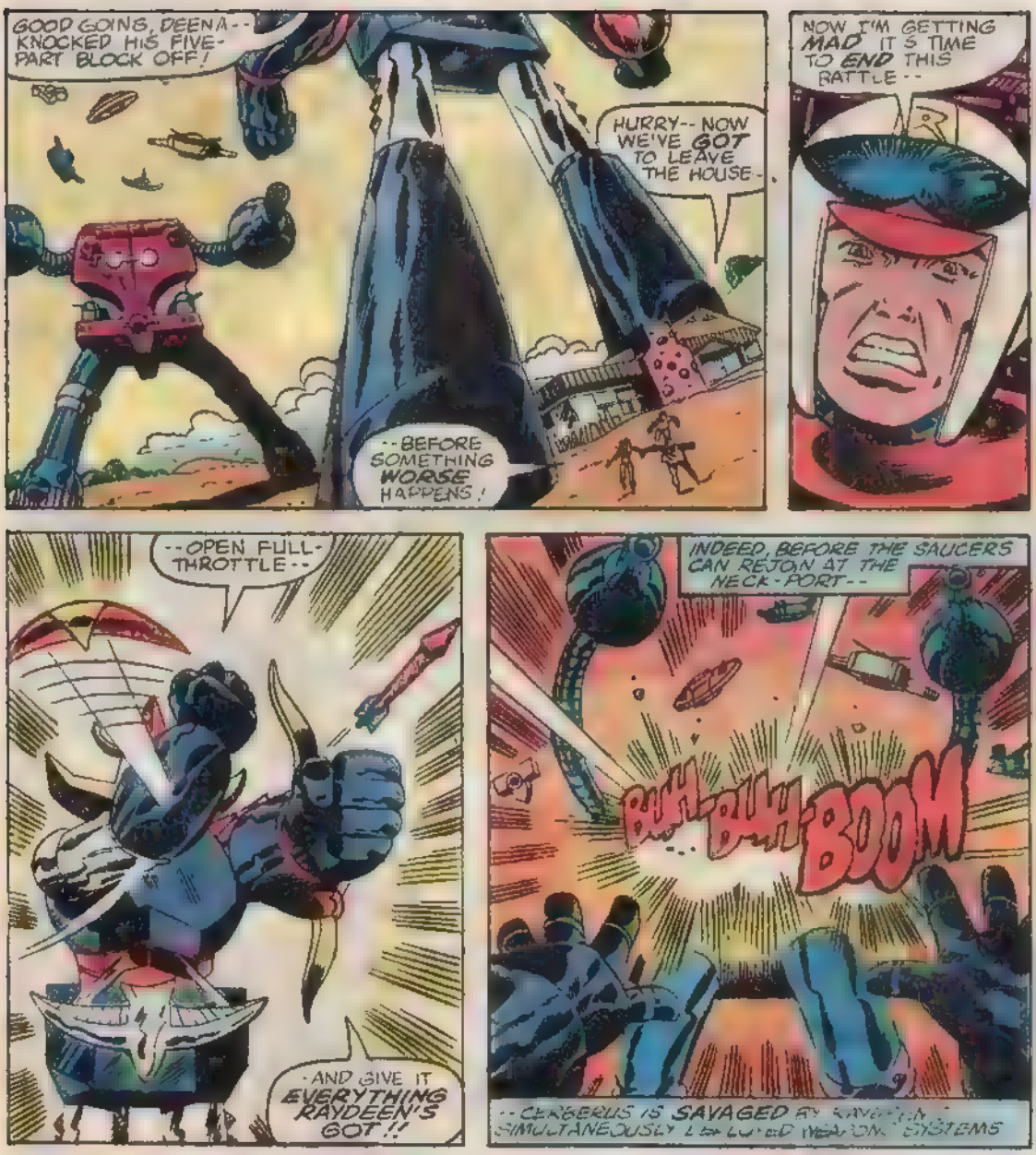
HANG ON! WE'RE GOING RIGHT OVER THE SIDE-- RIPPING RIGHT OUT OF THE FOUNDATION!


THERE ARE PEOPLE IN THAT HOUSE! RAYDEEN'S GOTTA SAVE THEM!
BUT RICHARD-- WHAT ABOUT CERBERUS?


NO CHOICE, DEENA - WE'VE GOT TO TURN OUR BACK ON HIM! BUT YOU KEEP A REAL CLOSE WATCH ON THE REAR MONITORS...
I'LL HANDLE THE HOUSE

CONTINUED

IT'S HAPPENING RICHARD-- CERBERUS IS SETTING SET TO BLAST US IN THE BACK!
THEN HIT THOSE THREE BUTTONS IN FRONT OF YOU, DEENA-- RIGHT TO LEFT --FAST!
ALL RIGHT, RICHARD
AUTO
JEK
.. BUT ..
AU
TO AC
SEQUEN
RIGHT TO
TEK
.. WHAT DO THE BUTTONS DO ?
RI
TEK
THEY ACTIVATE RAYDEEN'S RIGHT LEG!
MAKING HIM KICK LIKE A MISSOURI MULE!
KONG
THE THING .. C-CAUGHT US!


GOOD GOING, DEENA-- KNOCKED HIS FIVE-PART BLOCK OFF!
HURRY-- NOW WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE THE HOUSE-
--BEFORE SOMETHING WORSE HAPPENS!
NOW I'M GETTING MAD IT'S TIME TO END THIS BATTLE--
--OPEN FULL-THROTTLE--
--AND GIVE IT EVERYTHING RAYDEEN'S GOT!!
INDEED, BEFORE THE SAUCERS CAN REJOIN AT THE NECK-PORT--
KA-BLAM BOOM
--CERBERUS IS SAVAGED BY RAYDEEN'S SIMULTANEOUSLY LAUNCHED WEAPONS SYSTEMS
THEIR HOST-BODY CRIPPLED--
--THE FIVE SAUCERS RETREAT INTO THE CHEST HOUSING--
AND CERBERUS FLEES IN THE SAME CONFIGURATION IT USED FOR ITS INITIAL ATTACK
THE ROUTE HOWEVER IS DIFFERENT THROUGH AIR INSTEAD OF WATER...

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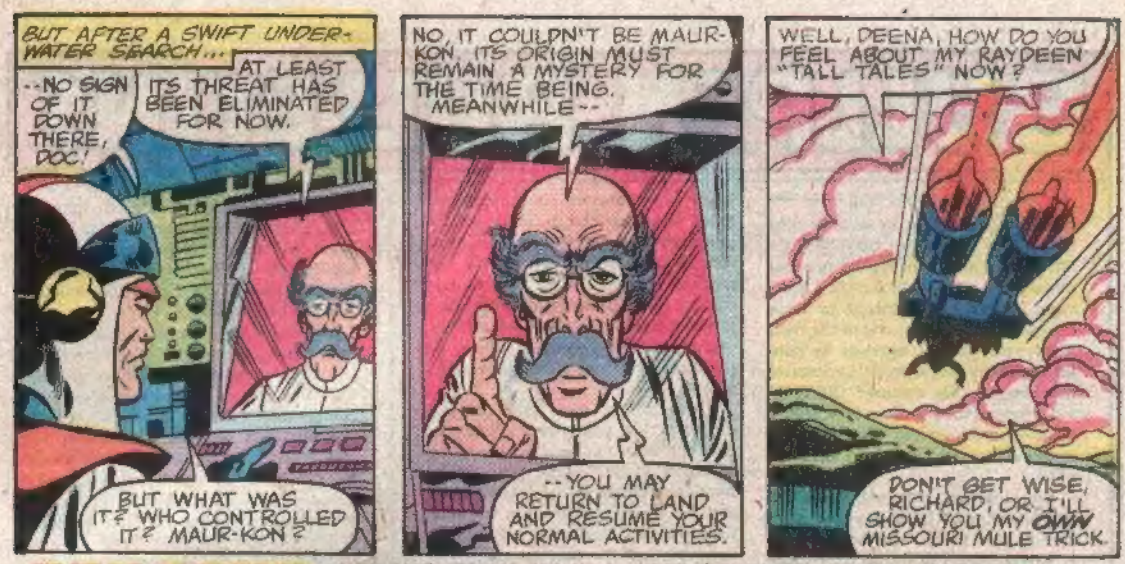
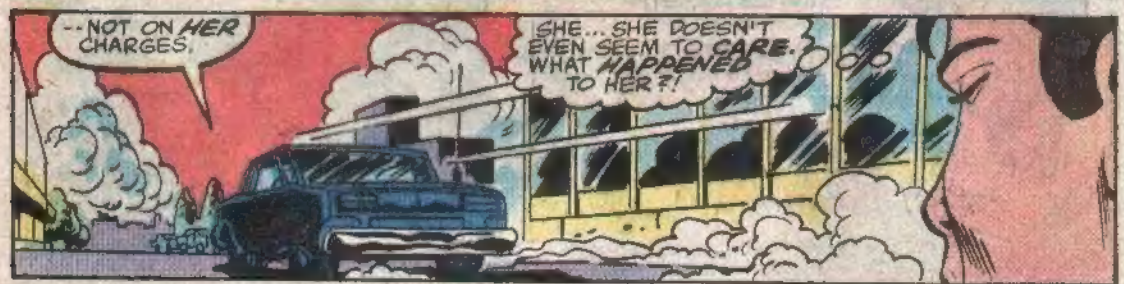
IT'S SHOOTING OFF AT HYPER-VELOCITY, DEENA--OUT OVER THE OCEAN! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN OVERTAKE IT--
--UNLESS RAYDEEN--
--CONVERTS TO--
--SUPERSONIC FIREHAWK!
WE'RE GAINING ON IT--WITHIN SPITTIN' RANGE!
TOOH TOOH TOOH
B'DOOM
DIRECT HITS! ITS PLUMMETING INTO THE OCEAN--!
BUT IS IT DESTROYED, RICHARD--
--OR JUST USING THE WATER AS A COVER FOR ITS ESCAPE?
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT, DEENA...


BUT AFTER A SWIFT UNDER-WATER SEARCH...
--NO SIGN OF IT DOWN THERE, DOC!
AT LEAST ITS THREAT HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FOR NOW.
BUT WHAT WAS IT? WHO CONTROLLED IT? MAUR-KON?
NO, IT COULDN'T BE MAUR-KON. ITS ORIGIN MUST REMAIN A MYSTERY FOR THE TIME BEING. MEANWHILE--
--YOU MAY RETURN TO LAND AND RESUME YOUR NORMAL ACTIVITIES.
WELL, DEENA, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT MY RAYDEEN "TALL TALES" NOW?
DON'T BET WISE, RICHARD, OR I'LL SHOW YOU MY OWN MISSOURI MULE TRICK.

EPILOGUE: A PLANE FROM MANILA SETS DOWN AT TOKYO AIRPORT. DURING THE FLIGHT, GENJI ODASHU AND HER FRIEND KOSEI HAVE DISCUSSED THE PENDING BOARD OF INQUIRY. HAVING DISAPPEARED WITH A NEW JET PROTOTYPE,* GENJI STANDS TO LOSE HER JOB...

BUT, EMERGING FROM THE TERMINAL, SHE MERELY SMILES...
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, KOSEI. AFTER WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME--
--A JOB AS A MERE TEST-PILOT MEANS NOTHING.
TOKYO POLICE--YOU ARE UNDER ARREST, GENJI ODASHU.
BUT YOU CAN'T ARREST HER. SHE'S IN MY CUSTODY.
I REPRESENT JAPAN AIRLINES, THE COMPANY WHOSE PROTOTYPE SHE--
DON'T WORRY, KOSEI--I'LL BE FINE.
I'LL GET BAIL, GENJI, AND--
THERE WILL BE NO BAIL--



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MORNING, OFF THE COAST OF MADAGASCAR: THE NEPTUNE DROPS ANCHOR...
THIS IS WHERE IT SPLASHED DOWN, JUDITH. LET'S GO.
BUT AS THEY GLIDE THROUGH THE EMERALD SILENCE...
NO SIGN OF ANYTHING.
PERHAPS IN THAT UNDERWATER CAVE, ILONGO?
NO, JUDITH, HOW COULD IT GET INTO--
WAIT! YOU'RE RIGHT-- THAT FLASH OF LIGHT!
CAUTIOUSLY, THE TWO DIVERS ENTER THE EERIE GROTTO...
IT... IT LOOKS ORGANIC... PULSATING... LIKE SOME KIND OF PROTOPLASM...
YES! THERE IT IS-- UP AHEAD! AND DR. TAMBURA WAS RIGHT-- IT'S NOT A METEOR-- OR EVEN A SATELLITE...
GET BACK, JUDITH! IT'S FLASHING THAT WEIRD LIGHT AGAIN-- FROM INSIDE-- AND IT'S STARTING TO SHRED!

THEN, DRIVEN TO THE BACK OF THE UNDERWATER GROTTO, BLOCKED FROM THE ENTRANCE, THE TWO DIVERS WATCH IN STUNNED TERROR...
...AS THE BIZARRE, GELATINOUS SPHERE RIPELY BURSTS INTO SLIMY FRAGMENTS...
GREAT HEAVENS, ILONGO! IT... IT WAS AN... EGG!
AND LOOK WHAT IT'S HATCHED!

NEXT ISSUE: SPOTLIGHTING **DANGARD ACE**-- IN A FIERCE BATTLE TO SAVE JUDITH'S LIFE FROM--

THE THING IN THE GROTTO!